ADD DATE TODAY—NO CLASS MONDAY

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper



WEATHER, p. 2

FRI: 70°F | 50°

SAT: 62°F | 41°F Sunny SUN: 65°F | 49°F

Sunny

Volume 130, Number 43 *tech.mit.edu* Friday, October 8, 2010

Nightline hiatus to last at least a year

Helpline service closed as a result of major administrative changes

By Jingyun Fan ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Nightline, MIT's student-run hotline for counseling, information, and support, is ceasing operations for at least two semesters while it decides on several major structural changes. Its coordinators hope that Nightline will be able to return in the fall of 2011 at least in some reduced capacity.

Until this semester, Nightline's anonymous staffers had been taking calls from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. every night of the term. It's a confidential service that has no caller ID, callers are never identified, specifics of the call are never shared, and staffers' identities are kept secret.

Leaves DUE/DSL for Medical

Nightline is no longer advised by Student Support Services (\$^3). In February, \$^3 moved from the Division of Student Life (DSL) to the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education (DUE). The decision to temporarily suspend Nightline came from a cross-unit review committee.

The Nightline Review Committee was formed over the summer to look at Nightline's position in DUE. The committee — which was made up of S^3 staff, MIT Medical staff, Dean of Student Life (DSL) staff, and the two student coordinators of Nightline — decided that Nightline would leave S^3 and be advised by MIT Mental Health

"This wasn't an internal Nightline review, that is clear" a Nightline staffer said. Nightline is not comfortable disclosing the identities of its staff.

According to Jessica L. Bainbridge-Smith '11, one of the Nightline student coordinators, the sole reason that Nightline is closed this year is S^3's move from the DSL.

"The DUE is more of an academic resource, and we are not an academic resource," Bainbridge-Smith said.

Nightline's support from the MIT administration helps mainly with the organizational aspects of the program, such as budget — but also with leading support groups, where Nightline staffers meet to reflect on their calls

Outsiders led to staff burnout

As the new advisors for Nightline, MIT Mental Health will require changes within the program — in particular, a way to deal with the increased number of non-MIT

"Historically, our philosophy has been to take calls from anyone" Emma C. Jeffries '11, the other student coordinator, said. "But ... it was taking time off of our primary philosophy, which is listening to students"

MIT Mental Health will be more strict about keeping calls MIT-only, especially because staff are not trained or licensed in any way to deal with non-student issues.

Outside calls were becoming a large problem for Nightline; they were estimated to be over half of all

Nightline, Page 13

SOURCE: HTTP://WEB.MIT.EDU/NIGHTLINE; PHOTOILLUSTRATION BY JESSICA LIU
Until recently, Nightline's web site presented a random image to
users. Here's a selection of some of their previous images.

Mavalvala wins MacArthur for gravitational wave detection



DAVID CHEN—THE TECH

Associate Professor Nergis Mavalvala recently won the \$500,000 MacArthur "Genius" grant for her research in detecting gravitational waves from outer space. Professor Mavalvala is a member of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory project that uses highly sensitive laser interferometry to detect potential gravity waves.

Microsoft Research offers 3-D

Students wear 3-D glasses and watch new Microsoft product in Stata Center yesterday; new XBox add-on

By Deborah Chen

Imagine you wanted to buy a gift for your aunt. You might ask her for a wish list, bring the paper into a store and spend a dull afternoon browsing.

What if you could do it all virtually, with a wave of your hand? In 3-D, no less?

According to Craig J. Mundie, Chief Research and Strategy Officer of Microsoft, this future is closer than we may think. Through advances in Human-Centric Computing — the idea that computers should be designed so human-machine interaction is as natural and intuitive as possible — we may one day be able to control a computer with simple hand gestures instead of keyboards.

Yesterday afternoon, Mundie, donning 3-D glasses, led the audience in his quest to buy the perfect gift for his hypothetical aunt at his talk: "More like Us: Human-Centric Computing" at in 32-123, part of CSAIL's Dertuozos Lecture Series.

With a few expert waves of his hand, Mundie opened a virtual room containing the contents of his aunt's wish list. He selected a pasta maker, zoomed in and rotated the image. At one point, he widened out his arms and the pasta

Microsoft, Page 12

Changes at Walker?

Music and Theater Arts could supplant student groups spaces in Walker Memorial

By Aparna Sud

Preliminary assessments on Walker Memorial have identified the ninety-four year old building as a potential new home for MIT's Music and Theater program.

According to Associate Provost Martin A. Schmidt, "The Music and Theater program has had a need for new space for a number of years now," namely for practice and performance purposes. The program's needs have recently become a priority, and Walker may be a location to fulfill those needs.

Architect William Welles Bosworth, MIT class of 1889, modeled the building after gentlemen's clubs of the 19th Century. As one of the earliest buildings on campus, Walker is equipped with so-

cial rooms, meeting rooms, offices, athletic facilities, dining rooms and four large event rooms.

"Walker could not only enhance Music and Theater, but the building itself could also greatly benefit from revitalization," Schmidt said. As of now, a core building evaluation has been made and ongoing assessments have been approved.

Facilities will determine if "roofs, windows, heating and ventilation need major repair," Schmidt said. The Associate Provost's office, Music and Theater Arts, and Facilities will lead MIT in its evaluation of Walker, while assessment of current uses will primarily be done by Schmidt's office and Phil Hughes from the Division of Student Life,

Walker, Page 12

IN SHORT

Today is Add Date, the last day to add classes. Subjects dropped by add date do not appear on internal grade reports, so if you're going to drop a class, consider dropping it today.

Monday is an Institute holiday, honoring Christopher Columbus' discovery of the New World in 1492. Classes resume on Tuesday Oct. 12, on a regular Tuesday schedule.

The Institute made \$281 million on operations last fiscal year, according to figures the Provost presented yesterday. FY10 budget cuts targeted \$58.3 million, and achieved \$65.9 million. \$8.7 million of those savings came from utilities. Total operating expenditures for FY10 were \$2.37 billion.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

ANOTHER GAY CLERGY SCANDAL

What does it say about homophobia in our society that gay clergy scandals have become cliché? **OPN**, **p. 5**

STUXNET IS THE FUTURE OF WAR

It's a superweapon...it's the dawn of a new age...it's a computer bug? **OPN, p. 4**

HATE ANNOYING QUESTIONS?

What if you had to pay money to ask questions in class? **OPN**, **p. 5**



MISSED RATATAT ON TUESDAY?

Don't worry, it was just more of the same. Cool stage effects though. ARTS, p. 8

RYAN REYNOLDS, STUCK IN A COFFIN

Slowly suffocating in a coffin with Ryan Reynolds is not the worst way to spend 90 minutes. **ARTS**, **p. 7**

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Low expectations for new climate meeting

 ${\it WASHINGTON-With\ wounds\ still\ raw\ from\ the\ chaotic}$ U.N. climate conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, last December, negotiators are making final preparations for next month's meeting in Cancun, Mexico, in a surly mood.

There is no chance of completing a binding global treaty to reduce emissions of climate-altering gases, few if any heads of state are planning to attend and there are no major new initiatives on the agenda. Copenhagen was crippled by an excess of expectation. Cancun is suffering from the oppo-

Delegates in Tianjin, China, at the last formal meeting before the Cancun conference opens Nov. 29, are hung up over the same issues that caused the collapse of the Copenhagen meeting. Even some of the baby steps in the weak agreement that emerged from last year's meeting, a slender document known as the Copenhagen Accord, have been reopened, to the dismay of officials who thought they had been settled.

—John M. Broder and Elisabeth Rosenthal, The New York Times

A like-named website seeks to part with MSNBC

NBC Universal and Microsoft, the parents of msnbc.com, are holding high-level talks about changing its name, an unusual and potentially risky endeavor for the third most popular news website in the United States.

The two parents have not yet agreed on what to call the site. But according to internal memorandums obtained by The New York Times this week, the parents have concluded that the brand known as msnbc.com, a strictly objective news site, is widely confused with MSNBC, the cable television channel that has taken a strongly liberal bent in recent years.

Charlie Tillinghast, the president of msnbc.com, wrote in one of the memos, "Both strategies are fine, but naming them the same thing is brand insanity." The channel and website are already separate companies.

Under the current plan, the msnbc.com Web address would become a site exclusively for the cable channel, fulfilling the channel's desire to have an independent site to promote its TV programs. The existing news site, called the "blue site" internally, would move to a new and as-yet-undetermined Web address. There is a subsection on msnbc.com for the cable channel.

-Brian Stelter, The New York Times

Bloomberg plan to ban food stamps for sodas faces hurdles

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg may face legal and political hurdles in carrying out his ambitious plan to bar food-stamp recipients from using their benefits to buy sugar-sweetened drinks, food policy experts said Thursday.

New York City on Wednesday asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture for permission to conduct a two-year experiment barring the city's 1.7 million users of food stamps from spending them on soda and other beverages with added sugar. But experts said the Agriculture Department lacked the authority to grant such permission, and that the proposal would require Congress to change laws governing the food-

Congress has considered the idea before, said Joel Berg, executive director of the New York City Coalition Against Hunger, who served in the USDA from 1993 to 2001. "They considered doing it and decided not to," he said. "What you can purchase and not purchase in the food-stamp program is described in extraordinary detail by federal law."

—Anemona Hartocollis, The New York Times

With the electric Nissan Leaf, the perks just keep coming

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tax credits, rebate checks, personalized home visits, government giveaways — even customer service calls from top corporate executives.

The first all-electric car from a major auto company, the Nissan Leaf, arrives at dealerships in December, but thousands of Americans are already learning that going electric can come with perks like no other car purchase.

"It just keeps getting better and better," said Justin McNaughton, among the 20,000 people who have reserved a Leaf. "My wife thinks it's funny because at the end of the day, we're just buying a car."

Since McNaughton, a lawyer in Nashville, Tenn., paid his \$99 deposit, he has been bombarded with government incentives — promises of a \$7,500 federal tax credit, a \$2,500 cash rebate from the state of Tennessee and a \$3,000 home-charging unit courtesy of the Energy Department.

When he had some basic questions about the Leaf, the answers came in a 40-minute telephone call from a senior manager in Nissan's corporate planning department.

You kind of feel like you're one of the chosen people," McNaughton

Precisely. It is all part of an unprecedented effort by federal, state and local governments to stimulate demand for cars that have zero tailpipe emissions - and Nissan's preemptive bid to corner the all-electric market much the way that Toyota dominated the early hybrid market with the Prius.

The government subsidies are shaving thousands of dollars off the Leaf's \$32,780 sticker price, while other benefits are piling up, like free parking in some cities and the use of express lanes on highways usually reserved for cars with multiple passengers. In Tennessee, where a Leaf assembly plant is being built, Leaf drivers will be able to charge their vehicles free at public charging stations on 425 miles of freeways that connect Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga.

"It's almost shocking how many subsidies are available on the Leaf," said Jeremy P. Anwyl, chief executive of the auto research website Edmunds.com. "We are putting a lot of money behind this technology."

Nissan expects the typical Leaf buyer to fit a highly desirable demographic: affluent, college-educated consumers in their mid-40s who are both environmentally sensitive and willing to take a chance that electric technology will be as safe and reliable as internal combustion

Better still, about 85 percent of the people who have reserved a Leaf do not currently own a Nissan, giving the brand exposure to a new audience. Interest in the car has been so great that the company has stopped taking reservations for the initial production run — the Leaf is being built in Japan, with assembly at the new plant in Tennessee beginning in 2012 — but Nissan has plans to sell as many as 500,000 electric cars worldwide by 2013.

The Obama administration has made electric vehicles a centerpiece of its drive to reduce the nation's reliance on oil and is pumping up subsidies with a goal of getting 1 million electric cars on the road by 2015.

On the border, a fishing paradise gains a deadly reputation

By James C. McKinley Jr.

HOUSTON - For decades, Falcon Lake was known primarily as an anglers' paradise, a tranquil reservoir straddling the border with Mexico where a clever fisherman could catch enormous largemouth bass. These days, however, the lake is developing a reputation for something else: piracy.

As a prolonged conflict between drug dealers and the government has eroded civil order in Mexico, gangs of armed thugs in speedboats have begun robbing fishermen and tourists on the lake.

Last week, gunmen in three boats reportedly shot and killed an American as he and his wife toured the lake on Jet Skis.

The shooting has strained tense relations between the Texas authorities and the Mexican government. A week after David M. Hartley, 30, was reported shot in the head, Mexican authorities have yet to find a body or any trace of his watercraft.

On Wednesday, Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican running for re-election, criticized the Mexican government as being slow to investigate the incident. He also denounced the Obama administration as not having provided more National Guard troops to patrol the border.

"Frankly, these two presidents need to get together with their secretaries of state and say, 'What are we going to do about this?" Perry said.

Hartley's wife, Tiffany, has complained that the Mexican police are not trying hard enough to find him. She has made teary appeals on a national morning news show and on local television stations.

The Mexican Foreign Relations Ministry, meanwhile, released a communique saying that the authorities in Tamaulipas state had "stepped up their actions with the support of

specialized personnel, boats and helicopters."

Ruben Dario Rios, a spokesman for the Tamaulipas state police, said in an interview that officers continued to dredge the lake and scan the water from a helicopter but had yet to find any trace of the missing man.

The Texas Rangers have warned Americans to keep to the U.S. side of the 60-mile-long reservoir, which was formed in 1953 when the Rio Grande was dammed. The Border Patrol and the Coast Guard have increased their patrols on the lake in response to Hartley's disappearance, federal officials said.

The shooting was the latest in a string of attacks by pirates on the lake. The gangs carry AK-47s and sometimes claim to be Mexican federal police or U.S. game wardens. State police say the robbers are believed to be members of a drug gang, although it is unclear if the attacks are the work of one group or several.

WEATHER

Pleasant Weather Ahead

By Allison A. Wing

After a couple of gray, rainy days in the early part of this week, more pleasant weather will be in store for us this weekend. Today will be mostly sunny with warm temperatures, but could be quite breezy ahead of an approaching cold front. There is not much moisture associated with this front, so there are no showers expected as it passes on Friday night, but it will

bring cooler temperatures and ng clouds. High _l sure will then take over for the rest of the weekend, with temperatures in the low to mid 60°Fs and sunny skies expected. With the dry airmass and mostly clear conditions on Saturday night, the temperatures could be cold enough to have the first frost of the season. As the high pressure moves offshore on Monday, southwest winds will bring milder temperatures, making for a pleasant Columbus Day.

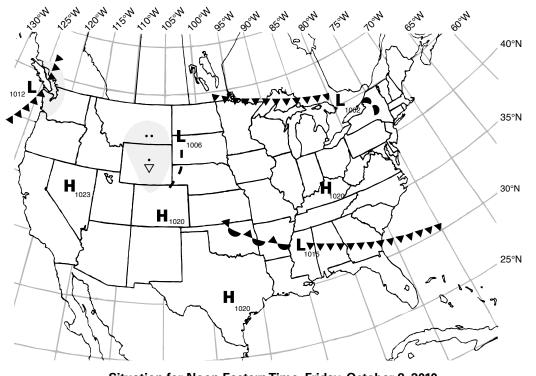
Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High of 70°F (21°C). West winds at 15-20 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low of 50°F (10°C). West winds at 10–15 mph.

Tomorrow: Sunny. High of 62°F (17°C). Low of 41°F (5°C). Northwest winds at 10-15 mph. Sunday: Sunny. High of 65°F (18°C). Low of 49°F (9°C). West winds at 10-15 mph.

Monday: Mostly sunny. High of 69°F (21°C). Low of 54°F (12°C). Southwest winds at 8–12 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Friday, October 8, 2010

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols			Other Symbols		
			Snow	Rain		Fog	
High Pressure	Trough	Showers	*	$\dot{\nabla}$	 	Thunderstorm	
Low Pressure	Warm Front	Light	*	•	00	Haze	
- e	▲▲▲▲ Cold Front	Moderate	**	••	Comp	oiled by MIT	
§ Hurricane	Stationary Front	Heavy	**	••		orology Staff	

Afghans linked to the Taliban guard U.S. bases

By James Risen

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Afghan private security forces with ties to the Taliban, criminal networks and Iranian intelligence have been hired to guard U.S. military bases in Afghanistan, exposing U.S. soldiers to surprise attack and confounding the fight against insurgents, according to a Senate investigation.

The Pentagon's oversight of the Afghan guards is virtually nonexistent, allowing local security deals among U.S. military commanders, Western contracting companies and Afghan warlords who are closely connected to the violent insurgency, according to the report by investigators on the staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The U.S. military has almost no independent information on the Afghans guarding the bases, who are employees of Afghan groups hired as subcontractors by Western firms awarded security contracts by the Pentagon. At one large U.S. air base in western Afghanistan, military personnel did not even know the

names of the leaders of the Afghan groups providing base security, investigators found. So they used the nicknames that the contractor was using — Mr. White and Mr. Pink from "Reservoir Dogs," the 1992 gangster movie by Quentin Tarantino. Mr. Pink was later determined to be a "known Taliban" figure, they reported.

In another incident, the U.S. military bombed a house where it was believed that a Taliban leader was holding a meeting, only to discover later that the house was owned by an Afghan security contractor to the U.S. military, who was meeting with his nephew — the Taliban leader.

Some Afghans hired by EOD Technology, which was awarded a U.S. Army contract to provide security at a training center for Afghan police officers in Adraskan, near Shindand, were also providing information to Iran, the report asserted. The Senate committee said that it had received intelligence from the Defense Intelligence Agency about Afghans working for EOD and that the reporting found that some of them "have been involved in activi-

ties at odds with U.S. interests in the region."

The Senate Armed Services Committee adopted the report by a unanimous vote, although Republican members issued a statement critical of the report for narrowly focusing on case studies in western Afghanistan.

In response to the Senate report, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates issued a letter saying that the Pentagon recognized the problems and had created new task forces to help overhaul contracting procedures in Afghanistan.

"Through the new programs we have implemented, I believe DOD has taken significant steps to benefit our forces on the ground while not providing aid to our enemies," Gates wrote.

The latest disclosures follow a series of reports, including articles in The New York Times and testimony before a House committee, describing bribes paid by contractors to the Taliban and other warlords to make sure supply convoys for the U.S. military were provided safe passage.

Peruvian Mario Vargas Llosa wins Nobel Prize for Literature

By Julie Bosman and Simon Romero

nd Simon Romero

Peruvian writer Mario Vargas Llosa, whose deeply political work vividly examines the perils of power and corruption in Latin America, won the 2010 Nobel Prize in Literature on Thursday.

Announcing the award in Stockholm, the Swedish Academy praised Vargas Llosa "for his cartography of the structures of power and his trenchant images of the individual's resistance, revolt and defeat."

Vargas Llosa, 74, is one of the most celebrated writers of the Spanish-speaking world, an antitotalitarian intellectual whose work covers the range of human experience, whether it is ideology or eros. He is frequently mentioned with contemporary Gabriel Garcia Marquez, who won the literature Nobel in 1982, the last South American to do so. Vargas Llosa has written more than 30 works of nonfiction,

plays and novels, including "The Feast of the Goat" and "The War of the End of the World."

The prize is the first for a writer in the Spanish language in two decades, after Octavio Paz of Mexico won in 1990. It renews attention on the Latin American writers who gained renown in the 1960s, like Julio Cortazar of Argentina and Carlos Fuentes of Mexico, who formed the region's "boom generation."

During a news conference at theInstituto Cervantes in Manhattanon Thursday, Vargas Llosa, an elegant, dashing figure with silvery hair, appeared in front of a crowd of giddy journalists, mostly Spanish-speaking, and Alejandro Toledo, the former president of Peru, who sat in the front row. Vargas Llosa is spending the semester in the United States, teaching Latin American studies at Princeton.

Answering questions in English, Spanish and a bit of French, Vargas Llosa called the Nobel a recognition of the importance of Latin American literature and of the Spanish language, which has acquired "a sort of citizenship in the world," he said.

When Vargas Llosa was young and went to Europe for the first time, he said, "Latin America seemed to be a land where there were only dictators, revolutionaries, catastrophes. Now we know that Latin America can produce also artists, musicians, painters, thinkers and novelists"

The announcement of the prize was greeted largely with enthusiasm in Latin America, where Vargas Llosa is widely admired for his literary greatness but is a divisive figure because of his conservative politics. He has frequently criticized leftist governments in the region, including those of Cuba and Venezuela.

In Peru, members of Congress took to the floor to praise him. Felipe Calderon, Mexico's president, wrote in a Twitter message that the prize was cause for "Latin American pride."

New and diminished chapter for children's picture books

By Julie Bosman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Picture books are so unpopular these days at the Children's Book Shop in Brookline, Mass., that employees there are used to placing new copies on the shelves, watching them languish and then returning them to the publisher.

"So many of them just die a sad little death, and we never see them again," said Terri Schmitz, the owner.

The shop has plenty of company. The picture book, a mainstay of children's literature with its lavish illustrations, cheerful colors and large print wrapped in a glossy jacket, has been fading. It is not going away — perennials like the Sendaks and Seusses still sell well — but publishers have scaled back the number of titles they have released in the past several years, and booksellers say sales have been suffering.

The economic downturn is certainly a major factor, but many in

the industry see an additional reason for the slump. Parents have begun pressing their kindergartners and first-graders to leave the picture book behind and move on to more text-heavy chapter books. Publishers cite pressures from parents who are mindful of increasingly rigorous standardized testing in schools.

"Parents are saying, 'My kid doesn't need books with pictures anymore,' " said Justin Chanda, the publisher of Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. "There's a real push with parents and schools to have kids start reading big-kid books earlier. We've accelerated the graduation rate out of picture books."

Booksellers see this shift, too.

Many publishers have gradually reduced the number of picture books they produce for a market that has seen a glut of them, and in an age when very young children, like everyone else, have more options, a lot of them digital, to fill their entertainment hours.

At Scholastic, 5 percent to 10 percent fewer hardcover picture books have been published over the past three years. Don Weisberg, president of the Penguin Young Readers Group, said that 2 1/2 years ago, the company began publishing fewer titles but that it had devoted more attention to marketing and promoting the ones that remain. Of all the children's books published by Simon & Schuster, about 20 percent are picture books, down from 35 percent a few years ago.

Classic books like "Goodnight Moon" and the "Eloise" series still sell steadily, alongside more modern popular titles like the "Fancy Nancy" books and "The Three Little Dassies" by Jan Brett.

Borders, noticing the sluggish sales, has tried to encourage publishers to lower the list prices, which can be as high as \$18. Mary Amicucci, vice president of children's books for Barnes & Noble, said sales began a steady decline about a year ago.

Obama calls for votes to outweigh outside money

CHICAGO — President Barack Obama used twin campaign appearances Thursday to lash out at the private money that has filtered into Republican coffers for the November election campaign, suggesting that some of it came from abroad. He urged the Democratic Party faithful to symbolically drown out the cash with their "millions of voices"

Obama complained that "groups that receive foreign money are spending huge sums to influence American elections, and they won't tell you where the money for their ads come from."

Obama mentioned a report by the Center for American Progress, a liberal research group, which this week asserted in a blog that the Chamber of Commerce may be mingling money from foreign contributors with its domestic receipts as it pays for ads and other political activities. That could be illegal, and the Chamber has denied it.

His remarks came at campaign events first in Bowie, Md., where he rallied some 4,000 students and blacks to support Gov. Martin O'Malley, Later in Chicago, he stumped for Alexi Giannoulias, the youthful state treasurer who is locked in a close fight with Rep. Mark Steven Kirk, a Republican, for Obama's old Senate seat.

Obama has been seeking to fire up his Democratic base in the last three weeks before the November elections. To that end, he has been devoting a lot of his campaigning to friendly audiences on college campuses.

—Helene Cooper, The New York Times

Changes have money talking louder than ever in midterms

The dominant story line of this year's midterm elections is increasingly becoming the torrents of money, much of it anonymous, gushing into House and Senate races across the country.

Television spending by outside interest groups has more than doubled what was spent at this point in the 2006 midterms, according to data from the Campaign Media Analysis Group, which tracks political advertising.

The explanation for how these interest groups have become such powerful players this year includes not just the Supreme Court's ruling in January in the Citizens United case that struck down restrictions on corporate spending on elections, but also a constellation of other legal developments since 2007 that have gradually loosened strictures governing campaign financing and the regulation of third-party groups.

Add in the competitive political environment, with Republicans ascendant, the Obama administration struggling to break the perception that it is hostile to business, and the resulting stew is potent.

In the end, though, it is the decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission that remains the touchstone. Interestingly, the legal changes directly wrought by the case have turned out to be quite subtle, according to campaign finance lawyers and political operatives. Instead, they said, the case has been more important for the psychological impact it had on the biggest donors.

—Michael Luo, The New York Times

GM's wage-cut deal clears way for U.S.-made subcompact car

ORION TOWNSHIP, Mich. — General Motors is trying to do what no other automaker has accomplished before — make money on a low-price subcompact car built in the United States with unionized labor.

The United Auto Workers has agreed to an unusual deal that might make the goal attainable at the GM assembly plant here by significantly cutting the wages of hundreds of workers.

Under a cost-saving arrangement, GM will pay 60 percent of the plant's 1,550 workers the going wage of about \$28 an hour, and the remainder of the workers about half as much — or \$14 an hour. The Orion plant, which previously made midsize sedans, will be converted to build a subcompact Chevrolet model, making it the focal point of GM's strategy to bring smaller, more fuel-efficient cars to American consumers. "This is the place that we want to start making small cars in America, in Michigan, for profit," Mark L. Reuss, head of GM's North American operations, said Thursday in a ceremony at the plant.

GM's previous subcompact, the Aveo, had been imported from South Korea. The company will most likely change the name for the new version to symbolize the anticipated fresh start for the car manufactured in the United States.

GM's total investment in its small-car programs in the United States — both compact and subcompact — is more than \$1 billion,

—Bill Vlasic and Nick Bunkley, The New York Times

Siemens train picked for channel tunnel

PARIS — In an effort to prepare for competition on cross-Channel rail traffic, Eurostar said Thursday that it had awarded a highly sought contract to upgrade its old fleet of fast trains to Siemens of Germany.

The announcement did not sit well in Paris, which had backed a French champion, and officials criticized the decision.

The 700 million euro, or \$1.1 billion, contract will provide Eurostar — which is majority-owned by the French government through its ownership of the national railway SNCF — with 10 of Siemens' sleek new Velaro e320 trains. The Siemens' trains beat the AGV trains made by Alstom, the French industrial conglomerate.

Eurostar hopes the new fleet will better position it for competition from Deutsche Bahn, the German operator that plans to offer service from points in Germany to London by the end of 2013.

The Eurostar e320, as it is known, can carry more than 900 passengers at about 200 miles an hour, compared with current trains, which can carry 750 at speeds of up to 185 miles an hour.

Nicolas Petrovic, chief executive of Eurostar, said in London that the contract was awarded based on "technical, commercial and pricing critoria"

—David Jolly, The New York Times



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Urgent PBE parental concerns

To President Hockfield, Chancellor Clay, and Dean Colombo:

As the parents of Matthew Barron, MIT Class of 2013 and a Phi Beta Epsilon brother initiated in January 2010, we are sick with worry and outraged about the events concerning the fraternity's four-year suspension. We are writing to plead for an independent investigation of the IFC's Judicial Committee process and appeal as well as a reconsideration of the decision itself.

Written more than two full weeks after we heard the initial shocking news from our son, Dean Colombo's parent letter cites "a deliberative judicial process, following established procedures, conducted by our student leadership." In fact, JudComm's proceedings regarding Phi Beta Epsilon contradict these claims. Our request for review and reconsideration rests on the following grave concerns:

The judicial process itself flagrantly violated many of "the rights of all parties to a fair process . . . guaranteed" in Article I of MIT's IFC Judicial Committee bylaws by:

1) Using as evidence a stolen document unsubstantiated by any actual victims and thereby denying PBE "the right to a decision based solely on the facts presented and supported by a preponderance of evidence."

2) Permitting the full participation in the hearing by a student biased after being denied a PBE bid as a freshman and now finding his former girlfriend dating a Phi Beta Epsilon brother; thereby depriving PBE of a "hearing before an impartial peer tribunal."

3) Initiating the charges months beyond the 60-day policy and thereby denying PBE "the right to a timely hearing."

4) Holding the hearing without an administrator present and thereby denying PBE "the right to have an advisor present."

5) Refusing to allow the PBE Corporation representative to speak and thereby denying PBE "the right to present oral statements."

The charge of hazing in the form of "mental discomfort" during the January 2010 Phi Beta Epsilon initiation is ground-

less and unsubstantiated by any of the pledges involved. Like the other members of his pledge class, our son Matthew found PBE's 2010 initiation to be a positive bonding experience consistent with the supportive nature of the fraternity that has become his family away from home. In essence, there were no injured parties, and it is a victimless charge.

Ironically, the "mental discomfort" Matthew and his brothers have been subjected to directly results from MIT's blind support of an unjust process and unfounded decision. To further the irony, the Class of 2013 Phi Beta Epsilon brothers, the very students the hazing policy was intended to protect, suffer the greatest punishment under the proposed four-year suspension.

From the fall 2009 Rush through the January 2010 initiation to the response to the current crisis, Phi Beta Epsilon has served as a sanctuary against the rigors and isolation of the college experience for our son and his classmates. To allow an unjust judicial process to destroy this sanctuary in name and in fact threatens the welfare of our children and is a betrayal of the fundamental trust we as parents and our children place in the leaders of the Institute.

We understand MIT's commitment "to the concept of self-governance for the Fraternity community" as stated in Jud-Comm's bylaws; however, in practice, for the brothers of Phi Beta Epsilon, the IFC Judicial Committee abused its authority, ignored its charge to be "non-adversarial," and certainly did not make "the discipline of students . . . a part of the educational process." Sadly, in this case, JudComm's proceedings echo the witch hunt depicted in Arthur Miller's landmark play, The Crucible, with "... children jangling the keys of the kingdom, and common vengeance writes the law!" For a decision formulated so improperly to be affirmed and validated on appeal by MIT is unconscionable.

For the members of Phi Beta Epsilon and their families, the consequences of the initial decision and appeal are exceedingly painful and unsettling. MIT has an urgent obligation to protect our children from further harm by scrutinizing the process, the evidence, the decision, and the appeal judgment. To do otherwise is to put the welfare of every active PBE member at risk and to deny our children full rights to the

Institute's mission. We appreciate your swift and serious consideration of our concerns, and we eagerly await your response.

— Elaine and Gerry Barron Parents of Matthew S. Barron '13

Look into expulsion of 100 year old fraternity

Dear President Hockfield: I would like to ask for your help to look into an important issue at MIT.

I am an MIT alum, class of 1984, and past President of MIT's Pi Lambda Phi fraternity.

When I arrived at MIT in 1980 and pledged Pi Lam, I learned that they had just been put on probation by the Dean. In fact, I found out that "probation" had just been invented at MIT to handle the situation at Pi Lam.

It has come to my attention that the Phi Beta Epsilon fraternity has recently been suspended for four years — which is effectively a death sentence for a fraternity. And a tragic loss for one with such a long and rich history at MIT.

I do not know what the infractions were for PBE, but I know that when I was at MIT, Pi Lam could have been cited for any number of violations under the broadly written, current MIT and Massachusetts Hazing Policies.

I have no doubt that the hazing policy and its enforcement have the best of intentions but I would ask you to look into this matter and be sure that this is a fair and reasonable enforcement of the rules.

If Pi Lam had been held to these broad standards, we too would have certainly been suspended and many brothers who were later to start and run companies, win an Olympic gold medal, and eventually even become professors and department heads at MIT would have been deprived of the important lessons of living responsibly on their own — that can only come through fraternity life.

Please use your position as MIT's President to ensure fairness to PBE and the MIT students.

—Stephen Smith '84 Former president of Pi Lambda Phi

'You guys made the cyber world look like the north German plain'

The Stuxnet attack casts a spotlight on the dystopic future of warfare

By Keith Yost
STAFF COLUMNIST

The pundits have called it a superweapon, a guided missile, and the herald of a new age in warfare. It's a computer worm called Stuxnet... and they're right.

The exact details of Stuxnet are sketchy. No one is sure of when it was created; its current form was discovered in mid-July by a Belarussian security firm, but an earlier, less sophisticated version of the worm was detected by Symantec over fifteen months ago.

No one is sure what it was intended to do. At first, researchers guessed it was intended for espionage—later the hypothesis changed to one of sabotage, but sabotage of what?

Stuxnet was designed to infect off-grid industrial control systems designed by Siemens, check if the system matched its intended target, and then manipulate the control logic of the system, causing an accident. Most Stuxnet infections have been found in Iran, making the likely target the uranium enrichment facility in Natanz — unconfirmed reports on Wikileaks of a nuclear accident at the facility, combined with a drop in the facility's output, make this scenario plausible.

No one is sure who designed it. Given the level of sophistication in the attack — the Stuxnet worm has four zero-day exploits, two stolen security keys, and a host of sophisticated methods — it must have been created by a nation-state. Presumably, if its

target was indeed Iranian nuclear facilities, the perpetrator was an enemy of Iran; the usual suspects include the United States, the United Kingdom, and Israel.

Stuxnet is, in a sense, the first of its kind. It sophistication bordering on overkill, its penetration of off-grid nuclear control systems, and its highly engineered precision have left security experts ooo-ing and aaah-ing while industrial control engineers scramble to patch their systems before less finicky versions of the worm are engineered by copycats to wreak havoc on civilization.

In another sense, Stuxnet is far from the first of its kind. In just the past few years, cyber

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OPINION POLICY

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010

Another gay scandal in the clergy?

Pastor Eddie Long's scandal is the latest variation on an old theme

By Michael Veldman

When I first heard about the Eddie Long scandal, my immediate reaction was something along the lines of: "Sheesh, another one?" Although the case has not yet been settled, it certainly looks like what we have on our hands is the same tired story. What does it say about our cultural and religious climate that this narrative, in which the closeted minister of excellent repute outs himself in scandal, has reached the status of cliché?

For those who haven't heard about the story, several weeks ago four boys came forward individually, each claiming that Bishop Eddie Long of the Georgia megachurch New Birth Missionary Baptist had used his position as their spiritual leader in several attempts to coerce them into engaging in sexual relations with him. While Long has not flatly denied the accusations, he has said the he is "not the man being portrayed on the television." According to the boys, his advances began when they were 17 and 18; Georgia's age of consent is 16.

For one thing, these sorts of scandals have incredibly undermined the authority

of religious institutions to make judgments on homosexuality. As a gay man, I cannot help but derive some schadenfreude from the sordid spectacle of hypocrisy, disappointment and disillusionment. In a particularly disparaging twist, the clergymen who are exposed as gay are often the ones who most vehemently condemn homosexuality.

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Let's consider the case of Bishop Eddie Long. Long's ministry runs an ex-gay type counseling program in an apparently sincere attempt to turn gay people straight. He is extremely vocal in his promotion of a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage. Long is also reported to have advocated the death penalty for gay people in a sermon in the mid-1990s, although it would appear he has since toned down the

level of his condemnation. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, Long is "one of the most virulently homophobic black leaders in the religiously based anti-gay movement."

So why do these credentials seem so perfectly suited for a minister about to be revealed in a gay sex abuse scandal? Why does this read like a fairly standard résumé?

The root cause is the fundamental homophobia of most religions. There is something insidious about an institution that instills such deep self-hatred in its most vulnerable members from such an early age. All of us LGBT folk brought up in the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu etc. tradition have probably struggled with self-loathing at some point and might even deal with the remnants of those feelings long after apparently coming to terms with our sexual orientation or gender identity.

For some, the only way to deal with the self-hatred and, ultimately, the fear of divine rejection and the pits of hell is to pretend that it was all just a fleeting curiosity, or that with enough prayer or self-abuse, one can actually change a fact of one's own

existence. (It is sad that some manage to convince themselves and others that it is possible to "turn straight." A word to the wise: in general, if one experiences desire for male-on-male sex, one is not heterosexual.) For Eddie Long (and Ted Haggard and any number of others) the self-hatred was so deeply inculcated that they chose this path with ruinous results. One can imagine how the constant tug of unfulfilled desire and unexplored feelings coupled with the effort it takes to self-monitor one's every action and maintain a facade of normalcy drives some to take desperate and risky measures.

It is easy to call these clergymen cowards and hypocrites; I'm sure many of them are. But ultimately, the fact that they are all more willing to deny their identity, live with self-loathing and guilt, struggle with depression, practice deception, and destroy their chances of happiness than to reveal who they really are says more about the sorry state of affairs in American religion and society than it does about these individuals

Michael Veldman is a member of the Class of 2014.

The market for questions

What if we had a cap-and-trade system for asking questions in class?

By William Damazer

In 1997 the Kyoto Protocol became the first major international treaty, (although not quite completely international) to feature a cap and trade scheme. Yet the idea to extend cap and trade schemes to individuals has not been taken up widely. Ed Miliband, Britain's new leader of the opposition, proposed a radical idea to introduce individual credits to pollute when he was head of the Department of Energy and Climate Change, but his idea has largely been ignored. Now, more than ever, MIT needs to set an example of radical policy by introducing a permit to ask questions.

I first started thinking about this in light of people answering questions. MIT has some of the most brilliant students in the world (or at least the southern side of Cambridge in the United States). So when they answer questions they can deliver insight and clarity to the rest of the class, creating large positive externalities. Usually we would worry about under-provision of good answers, as the benefits I receive from answering questions doesn't add up to the benefits for the rest of the class. But in this case the professor steps in and fixes our broken market. The professor values the benefits to the rest of the class and has an

incentive to reward the good student with a UROP, a reference or perhaps more lenient grading (if the student is really lucky).

A second problem with people answering questions is that people's extreme brilliance can bring even greater arrogance. This leads to answers that are roughly related to the topic of class, but more importantly are a showcase of external knowledge (or gut thought) and how much smarter the student is than the rest of the class, and perhaps the professor too. The professor has a really easy job fixing the market here. There is initially an information problem: who is a twerp, and who isn't? The progression of the class over time removes this imperfect information rapidly. All the professor has to do is stop taking questions from the problem students with the excuse, "I want to hear form someone else in the class".

Dismissing people from asking questions may be harder. People pay a large amount in tuition to come to MIT and it doesn't seem right that their pressing questions can be easily turned down by the professor. This is where the Kyoto Protocol can serve as an example (or at least where it would have been able to if it had ever worked). Firstly, we will assume that the MIT professor has taken the class many times. They therefore know how many questions should be asked

throughout the semester to create an "efficient class." The credits are then divided equally amongst the students in the class so that each has the right to ask a certain number of questions throughout the class.

When asking questions people can derive benefits in two ways. One is by furthering their own knowledge, and the other is by furthering their own ego. The trading scheme has many benefits. It can price out those who are asking questions for non-

By asking questions people derive benefits in two ways, by furthering their own knowledge or furthering their own ego.

academic purposes. The benefits of a high GPA are far greater than (or at least should be) letting the class know how clever you are. Therefore, in the after-class trading market twerps should be out bid by genuine students. Secondly, it deals with a subset of students asking academic questions: those who didn't do the reading before class. The cost of asking too many questions means it becomes optimal for them to redistribute their time towards reading at home rather

than interrupting class (which, I should add, has huge negative externalities). Finally in the rather small world of an MIT class, people can price discriminate. Those who ask the best questions can buy extra permits for cheaper amounts. Perhaps students pay them if they are really good questions.

I have made a small contradiction, however. In the scenario above people now have to pay money above their MIT fees to participate in class. This is already a principle that I said should not be violated. But perhaps its not being violated too much. The permit scheme doesn't require additional resources for the entire class, it just redistributes resources more efficiently, even though some may see the scheme as inequitable. Instead, I propose that rather than buying permits with cash, students buy them with a donation to a party at the end of the year. This way, at least they derive some benefit from their "donation" and can at least unwind after a hard semester of many questions.

Right now I feel like there would be some good parties in my classes, however I fear I would also be out of pocket. That is for the market to decide.

William Damazer is a Cambridge student participating in the Cambridge-MIT Exchange.

Being a freshman

Upperclassmen should learn to step back a few years

By Paul Welle

I've wanted to write for *The Tech* for some time. I've wanted to find something to say or something to share. Something about being here, something about the experience of keeping our heads above water. This swim, which for whatever reason we willfully throw ourselves into, sometimes even letting the salty droplets get down into our lungs, because that pain can often be less than the pain of continuing to tread water.

Clearly I've found something to say, but please, don't worry. I'm not going to depress the hell out of you by telling you things are hard. Because 1) you probably know that and 2) they aren't that hard. Hard isn't the underlying experience here, even if that's what we tell others or want it to be. And I'm not going to write a sexcolumn about how everyone here fornicates night and day, because that's not the experience either. The experience is something different. It's the experience of being inside a carefully manufactured and overengineered glass bubble. One that was created by men long dead and propped up on their corpses. One that is insulated further each year by those inside. It's a unique thing we're going through. Unique. Not good, not bad, not happy, not sad, not hard, not easy. All of these fall far short in describing our home. Maybe looking at it

will give us a little insight on what it is to be human, and what it is to be MIT. Who knows, maybe by doing this we'll be able to find a little hope, tucked far away in a corner in the bottom of a single stream recycling can. And maybe this introspection will lead to a little change or even a little regained sureness.

But to all of this tion, which is partial time of year. And of the freshman.

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Hard isn't the underlying experience here, even if that's what we tell others or want it to be.

This whole column was initiated because of glassy eyes. They're everywhere. Sit in the study room or the Athena cluster in the basement of 66 or the strangely placed lounge with green crescent shaped couches and there will be a least a handful of people completely isolated in fog. A completely neutral to slightly negative faced etched in stone sits undisturbed. Each sitting two feet or a chair apart, too insulated and too protected. Look around now, you'll see some. I can't help but feeling like we're all a little like Matilda's happy ending in Dahl's famous story. We have such strong powers of creativity and creation that are weighted down and kept under ballast by thoughts preoccupied.

But to all of this there is a notable exception, which is particularly evident at this time of year. And that is the phenomenon of the freehman

To be clear v don't mean first year student. I'm a senior, and every year until this one others have assumed I was one. Not asked me if I was one, they simply assumed I was one. Other freshman would come up to me and talk and upperclassmen would be condescending or overly helpful (maybe the same thing?). I just took it and accepted it. It never bothered me, because I knew why the assumption was made. I was happy and cheerful and made friends in a simple and easy way. This year those mistakes haven't been made, mostly because I've finally been dragged under by weight and responsibility like my peers.

What I propose is a simple game to shake things up. I implore you to endeavor upon the same challenge that I've tasked myself with — pick a day and be a freshman. Do something absurd with a group of people you don't know. Talk to that guy next to you for really no reason. Just say something silly or something plain or something nonsensical and be unembarrassed about it. Let's shatter some of those stone visages. And don't do it for their sake, but for yours. Use those fragments of rock as stepping stones to consciousness, and let's wake up a little. Being a freshman doesn't mean being fake,

although sometimes they go hand in hand. Don't retreat to those stock conversations you store in your back pocket for whenever you accidentally talk to a stranger. Psets. The weather. Their shoes. Your shoes. Anyone's damn shoes. Ask them something personal. Ask them for advice. Tell them what's actually on your mind. They could run away or freeze, but you'd be surprised. People are nicer than you'd expect. I've made best friends this way.

Being a freshman doesn't mean being fake, although sometimes they go hand in hand.

I hope I've got you on board. If nothing else let's all take a moment to look around and see what we're doing. Let's ask ourselves why we're here. Let's find out about each other. Because when we're old we'll tell stories of this place to people who don't want to hear them. Since it's going to happen to us anyway let's make some awesome stories. Let's be aware. Because you too will soon be a senior and you'll wish you had stopped to take it in or stopped to let it out or just stopped. So take a deep breath. Look around. And for now, be a freshman.

Paul Welle is a senior in Course I.

Cyberwarfare disrupts the norms of conflict

Unlike nuclear weapons, computer worms like Stuxnet obscure the identity of the attacker

Stuxnet, from Page 4

attacks have been used to steal secrets from the Pentagon, wage war against Syria, Estonia, and Georgia, and cause billions of dollars in damages to U.S. systems. Even today, Chinese computers continue to wage an unrestrained cybernetic war against Google. "Operation Aurora" has caused the company to pull out of China entirely and seek protection from the National Security Administration.

Ultimately, to split hairs over Stuxnet's purpose, capabilities, provenance, or novelty, is to miss the forest for the trees. It doesn't matter when it arrived; cyberwar is here, and it's nasty.

Advances in weaponry are often highly disruptive — in part because the tactics of war lag the pace of technological development (recall the tragically belated disappearance of massed frontal assaults after the arrival of the machine gun) — and in part because political leaders, uncertain of the significance of new technologies, miscalculate the strength of nations and in doing so invite war (just ask 1940 France of the significance of motorized infantry). For this reason alone, cyberwar deserves a prominent place in American defense thinking.

However, the advent of cyberwar carries with it more than just the traditional risks associated with new weapons technology. Firearms, artillery, aircraft... each caused a minor revolution, but none overturned a fundamental feature of war that has existed for millennia: to wage a conflict that goes above the nuisance level, you must reveal your identity to your opponent — you can't roll tanks through the Ardennes without someone noticing their origin and intentions.

As a species, we have learned, in a limited way, to manage the problem of security in an

anarchic environment. Place twenty strangers with knives in a room, and international relations theorists can offer a dozen ways to keep the peace: collective security, balancing alliances, deterrence, appeasement, etc. Place twenty strangers with knives in a room and turn off the lights, and the only way to guarantee security might be to stab nineteen people.

It is hard to circumscribe the damage that nuclear weapons do, and as a result, it is hard to achieve practical aims.

We have faced the specter of anonymous, yet destructive attacks before. When China developed nuclear weapons, we worried that tomorrow might find us staring at the cinders of New York City, the victim of a smuggled nuclear device, unable to determine whether responsibility lay with Beijing or Moscow. How can you deter an enemy you cannot identify?

Today, the fear of nuclear terrorism remains very real. We lack both the border control to prevent an attack and the forensics to identify the aggressor after the fact. Thus far, we have, owing a great deal to luck, avoided calamity. Nuclear weapons are not impossible to obtain, and most moderately-sized economies can acquire them within a decade of effort — South Africa did it in nine years during the 1970's — however they continue to remain largely out of reach for rogue states and subnational groups. The resulting paucity of nuclear states reduces the probability of attack, not just because there are fewer deci-

sion makers with the potential to take such an action, but also because when an aggrieved state looks for someone to retaliate against, the list is likely to be small, and include the guilty party.

We have also benefited, somewhat perversely, from the inherent nihilism of the act itself. The use of nuclear weapons, in any form, has become a major political taboo. There are psychological barriers that place the atomic bomb on a separate shelf from other options — it's acceptable for the Soviets to funnel arms to North Vietnamese terrorists, it's unacceptable for us to hand a nuclear weapon to Afghan Mujahideen and watch Volgograd get leveled.

More significantly, it is hard to circumscribe the damage that nuclear weapons do, and as a result, it is hard to achieve practical aims. Unless the goal is to generally weaken an opponent, nuclear terrorism doesn't seem like a compelling tactic.

Unfortunately, none of these natural limiters on nuclear terrorism apply to cyberwar. There are no proliferation controls — everyone, every state, every subnational entity, every script-kiddie with a PC and a dream has access to the technology and the resources to conduct an attack. There are no taboos in place — cyber attacks occur across such a subtle spectrum of intensity that there is no clear cordon to be drawn around tolerable and unforgivable activities. And while nuclear weapons are good for little else but mass destruction, cyberwarfare can have highly specific targets, and meet a broader range of goals than sheer brutality.

It is easy to overstate the potential impact of cyber attacks. A good example is Richard Clarke's (a former member of the National Security Council) recent novelization of Live Free or Die Hard, creatively named Cyber War. Despite including many pages of sound analysis, Mr. Clarke chooses to spend some chapters indulging in massive hyperbole — his imagined doomsday, where China or Russia destroys the entirety of the U.S's financial system, infrastructure, and military networks simultaneously in some sort of "digital Pearl Harbor" is not just technically unlikely, but defies any rationalization of the motives behind such an assault.

However, even if the apocalyptic fiction of cyberwar never comes to pass, the reality is not much prettier. We face a low level, continuous, constantly intensifying, constantly escalating war. The dynamics of this conflict are such that we have no obvious means of reigning it in, no game theoretic approach that offers a road to peace.

The U.S. is poorly positioned to engage in cyberwar — our technologically based economy, network-centric combat tactics, and reluctance to encroach upon the freedom of our citizens make us especially vulnerable in the face of cyber threats. Despite all this, we remain at square one: we are just now beginning to get our heads around the problem, just beginning to answer fundamental questions of doctrine, tactics, and diplomacy.

Sixteen months ago, President Obama announced a new cyber security initiative. At the time it was greeted as a significant shift. Today, it is looking more like President Bush's similar 2003 initiative — plenty of flash, but no follow-through.

This time however, the clock has run out. We can no longer kick the can down the road and leave the next administration to formulate our defense. Between the economy, Afghanistan, and the rest of the nation's pressing issues, President Obama has a full load on his plate. But as tough as it is, he must make room for cyber security.

UA UPDATES & ANSWERS

Update

- The very first bill of the 42nd session of Senate passed on Monday! The utilization of the Student Center Game Room has been tasked to the Space Planning committee with recommendations, such as a cafe or a comforting sofa lounge.
- Senate provided comments at session to Mr. Oliver Thomas in order to

help enhance Athena Printing in the near future!

• Surveys will be given out by the senators of your living group this week. Please take the time to fill one out!

Answers

• Email *ua-questions@mit.edu* if you want your questions answered!

—Alec Lai UA Secretary-General



Do you blog?

The Tech's Opinion section is starting a blog this semester.

If you care about politics, international relations, or campus events, but don't have the time to write long-form opinion columns, this is your chance.

We want bloggers to write short entries for two Opinion features:



★ Political Coverage ★

2010 Midterm Elections

Things that happen in the U.S. political world. 2010 is shaping up to be an exciting year!



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FILM REVIEW

Claustrophia in a coffin

Ryan Reynolds stars in a one-man thriller in Buried

By Jericho Ricardi

Let's get this out of the way first — Buried is a disturbing, deeply uncomfortable film, and claustrophobic moviegoers would do well to avoid it. The film stars Ryan Reynolds as Paul Conroy, an American truck-driver working for a company in Iraq. After an attack on his unarmed convoy by insurgents, he awakens to find himself trapped in a coffin; armed with a phone, a Zippo lighter, and a knife, he frantically searches for a way to escape before it becomes his tomb.

The story is compelling and the main character — an "everyman" in over his head if ever there was one — is in such a plight that the audience can't help being drawn into his shoes, almost experiencing his predicament. The film stays focused on the protagonist like a laser, never deviating from its purpose. Conroy is, with a debat-

able exception, the only onscreen character in the movie; a large part of the movie's ability to draw the audience in so well is the fact that the interior of his coffin is the only real backdrop. This movie is about as minimalist as they come — one actor, one backdrop, and a few voices — it's almost something that could have been made by any aspiring writer with a vision.

As far as point of view goes, this film is as close as possible to being in the first-person perspective without actually being so; it gets into the minds of viewers and makes us wonder what we would do if we were in the protagonist's position. We aren't just rooting for him to escape, we're rooting for him as if he were us. That protagonist isn't perfect; he may not even be all that moral of an individual. Over the course of the movie we get a look at how flawed he is as a person, yet that ultimately makes him easier to identify with. Throughout the movie we get a glimpse at how unhelpful and heartless people can be; also, the reality that Iraq is an extremely dangerous place where disaster regularly happens faster than anyone can react. When Conroy starts to come to grips with the fact that he's more or less alone out there, so are we.

The often-underrated Ryan Reynolds turns in a brilliant performance in this movie, flexing his acting chops and showing us what he's capable of. With a lesser actor. Buried would have far less impact. In many ways, this film is a study in futility; one could find it depressing if not for the fact that it's also a "ticking time bomb" scenario that keeps the audience on the edge of their seats right up to the climactic final

This film is not for the faint of heart. That said, it leaves a powerful and vivid vision,

Buried

Starring Ryan Reynolds

Directed by Rodrigo Cortes

Opening October 8

one that will likely stay with viewers for a long time. It isn't the best movie of the year by any means, yet it may well be one of the most absorbing; it also contains an abundance of subtle messages that many of us can interpret and appreciate differently. It is ironic that the film takes place inside of a coffin, because it is really a story about life — and how much it means to us when we're in danger of losing it and how much it means to us when we're in danger of losing it.

CONCERT REVIEW

Electrifying performance of contempo-music

Pianist Vicky Chow captivates with avant-garde classical music of the 21st century

By Bogdan Fedeles STAFF WRITER

Artistically, October is often a busy month at MIT, and this year is no exception. Vicky Chow's recital, as part of the Bang on a Can Residency (sponsored by MIT Music and Theatre Arts department) was the first notable musical event of October. This concert was highly anticipated. given the artist's strong ties with Bang on a Can All-Stars, a chamber ensemble renowned for its free and experimental approaches aimed at blurring the distinction between all forms of music. Chow's recital was a vivid demonstration of piano contemporary music, showcasing the possibilities of the instrument extended with the aid of computer generated effects. While this contemporary music might initially sound inaccessible and strange, the showmanship of Chow and her feisty technique kept the audience engaged and thoroughly entertained. In many ways, this recital was a veritable eye-opener, offering a glimpse of the distant future of classical music (and music in general), and highlighting the enormous range of the expressive possibilities of the piano, most of them still untapped today.

As an effective performer of contemporary music, Chow has skillfully combined a solid, traditional training with an inclination for experimentation. Her playing highlighted not only a sparkling technique, but also a remarkable emotional depth. By dubbing her recital, "The Art of Groove," Chow specifically hints at the underlying emotional state, highly contagious and often hypnotic that her performance of contemporary music often depicts. Most of the pieces on her program deal with subconscious torments, unsettling, cyclical and

Chow has skillfully combined a solid, traditional training with an inclination for experimentation.

often ambivalent emotions. Titles such as "Phantom Limb" (by Daniel Wohl), "Doppelganger", "Harlequin", "Loop" (by Ryan Francis), "Dream" (by John Cage) ostensibly illustrate this point.

The raw quality of the emotional landscape of contemporary music requires a strong musical presence from the performer, both in the technical and interpretational realms. Chow displayed an unabashed composure, tackling fearlessly and expressively both the flashy virtuosic passages and the more subdued, often drone-like, seemingly repetitive introspective interludes. Her precise technique and amazing endurance were instrumental to her buoyant rendition of "In bounds", written by Professor Evan Ziporyn. "In bounds" sounded extremely taxing for the performer, who embarks on a perpetually moving, yet hardly advancing musical marathon, while the audience becomes entranced in the mind-boggling sound frenzy. Yet, Chow earned a great deal of admiration and awe by powering through this piece and barely breaking a sweat.

The high point of the concert was the piece "Vick(i/y)" by Andy Akiho, a sizable fantastic work for prepared piano, written for and dedicated in part to Chow. In fact, the composer himself was present and helped with the preparation: by installing select mutes on the piano strings and then amplifying the subsequent sounds, one can drastically change the timber of the piano. The changes can be so diverse that on a recording, the piece would sound as if performed by a percussion ensemble. Indeed, "Vick(i/y)" aptly educates on the percussive nature of the sounds on the piano and offers ample suggestions on how it can be extended. The piece abounds in unconventional techniques, including direct string strumming, plucking, as well as scratching. All these effects require a new dimension of the performer, who must be at the same time an athletic percussionist, as well as a pianist. Moreover, they require a more intimate connection with the instrument, akin to the one typical of string players. Such a piece also brings into the spotlight the gargantuan size of a nine-foot concert piano, strongly contrasting with the size of the performer. Chow's nimble presence and graceful musical choreography around the massive instrument was therefore intensely mesmerizing. Musically, the piece was also satisfying, the novel percussive sounds being featured in unexpected and refreshing harmonic instances.

The recital ended with the Boston premiere of "Morning Tale" (by Jakub Ciupinski), a suite for piano and electronics. While the music here is written in a more traditional style, the interplay between the live performance and the computer generated sounds (pre-recorded) makes the piece sound extremely fresh and appealing. By strategically placing the speakers inside the piano, the digital effects seem organic to the music and blend seamlessly with the sound of the piano. Ms.Chow delivered a thoroughly enjoyable performance, full of dynamism, highlighting both the soulful character of the slow movements and the total exuberance of the energetic finale.

Vicky Chow performs again this Friday and Saturday at Cutler Majestic Theatre, when she rejoins the Bang on a Can All-Star group for the opera "A House in Bali" by Evan Ziporyn.

Know something important we should write about?

Let us know.

news@tech.mit.edu



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CONCERT REVIEW

How do you play a Ratatat song?

(By playing a Ratatat song)

By Charles Lin SENIOR EDITOR

 $\\ My \ unfortunate \ tautological \ infatuation$ with tautology peaked around the same time as the Ratatat show Thursday night. This was fortunate because it allowed me to answer such questions like, "how do you play a Ratatat song?" Answer: you play a Ratatat song.

The band, touring off of their 4th album titled their 4th album (LP4) sounded like Ratatat which is good if Ratatat is what you want to hear. Ringing guitar lines, crunchy bass hooks, a hip hop homage of beats and samples. Ratatat is Ratatat and nothing quite sounds like Ratatat. That isn't to say Ratatat is great music. It's good music, it's catchy, it has, holds, and nurtures a beat and a groove, letting it mature into a carousing and danceable enveloping co-

The beats are largely pre-recorded, the visuals are synched to a track. If the band went comatose on stage, the music would persist.

It's studying music. Music to dance to (caveat: waist up only) with earbuds tucked tightly into ear drums sounding a beat. No lyrics, no surprises, you get what you get: two guitarists and a laptop. Unfortunately, this means much of the Ratatat experience can't be translated on stage. The beats are largely pre-recorded, the visuals are synched to a track. If the band went comatose on stage, the music would persist. These conditions also apply to Ashley Simpson and that is no good at all no siree, for in case the memo didn't reach your inbox, the point of a live show is to see a band play live.

So why see Ratatat perform? I'm still debating the greater-than, less-than, and equal between seeing Ratatat live and playing their album on a nice stereo with friends and abundant LSD. The most persuasive bit of evidence came from the band.



Silhouettes take the spotlight during the Ratatat concert at the House of Blues on October 5, 2010.

Their stage set up had no spotlights, no center of attention here I am with my cock-rocketing strat-ivarius. In fact, they were highlighted most by their absence. Two generic silhouettes cast against striking visuals of cockatiels and rotating busts of baroque composers. On each side of the stage, two screens displayed holographic avatars playing cello and violin in rococo attire. They absorbed my attention and if the band went from stage front to stage back, I doubt I would have noticed.

It's funny, their last LP was riddled with classical riffs and yet the only theme and variation came during the first encore track, "Seventeen Years."

"I've been rapping for so long," the sample for the song begins. How long? Six years on from when their first single "Seventeen Years" became extant. That's a long time to be rapping the same thing. Same guitar lines, same hooks and patterns. I can pick out a Ratatat melody line because it sounds like a Ratatat melody line. It sounds good, dances right, and fills a sonic space more than two guitars and a laptop should, but

I just wish they'd do it once more with

Ratatat **House of Blues** Boston, MA October 5, 2010

feeling. Ratatat may be Ratatat and something is better than nothing, but nothing more is still nothing less than the same thing once again.

ON CLASSIC CINEMA

Here's looking at you

Why Casablanca remains a classic for the ages

By Emily Nardoni

Certain films are guaranteed to be at or near the top of every "greatest movies of all time" list you'll ever read: Citizen Kane, The Godfather, Vertigo and of course Casablanca. Perhaps you can name it as one of the most well-known love stories in cinema, or you recognize actors Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, or you've heard one of its many famous lines ("We'll always have Paris"); Casablanca is one of those films that has so permeated cinematic culture that nearly everyone has some level of aware-

So why is this the case? It's memorable in just about every way a movie can be memorable; its script, story, and characters. Made in 1942, the film is set during World War II in unoccupied Casablanca, a restless place where refugees come to find visas to flee the war, and where the distinguished Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart) runs an upscale saloon. One fateful evening, chance brings the lovely Ilsa Lund and her husband Victor Laszlow to his bar in search of the proper papers to take them to America. We soon discover Rick and Ilsa have once been in love, and as tensions rise in Casablanca more and more is revealed about their past. The heart-wrenching ending reveals whether or not they will choose their love despite past misunderstandings and obstacles the war has set in their paths.

The film's appeal even transcends its surface action, romance, politics, and drama Casablanca is a film about how people react to circumstance beyond their control, the fine line between what

Casablanca uses dialogue as its most important narrative tool; every line is meticulously crafted to convey the spirit of the person saying it.

could have been and what has to be, and the distinction between one's fate and another's obligation. These themes are part of what makes a war-time romance relevant to audiences today. The decisions the characters make can be questioned because they breach deeper principles about life and love. Whether or not you would get on the plane in the final scene really is a question of what matters most to you, of what you value in your life.

The interactions between the characters is another large part of what makes the story special. It's the nostalgia, chemistry, and tension between Rick and Ilsa, the connection between the two bridged by the pianist Sam and his song "As Time Goes By" ("play it again, Sam"), Rick's wry bitterness pierced by unexpected sentimentalism, and the unlikely friendship struck between Rick and Captain Louis that leaves such a lasting impression. Bogart himself was one of the greatest actors of his time, known for such films as The Maltese Falcon and The Big Sleep, and in Casablanca forms one of the most famous on-screen couples in film.

And finally, by far my favorite part of the film, let us examine the script. Casablanca uses dialogue as its most important narrative tool; every line is meticulously crafted to convey the spirit of the person saying it. The script — written by Koch and the Epstein brothers — is sharp, witty, and dynamic, and for this Casablanca is regarded as having one of the best written screenplays of all time. It won the Academy Award for Best Screenplay (as well as Outstanding Motion Picture and Best Director). Take this exchange between Louis and Rick, as they sit under the moonlight outside of Rick's

Louis: I've often speculated on why you don't return to America. Did you abscond with the church funds? Did you run off with a senator's wife? I like to think that you killed a man, it's the romantic in me.

Louis: Then what in heaven's brought you to Casablanca? Rick: My health. I came to Casablanca

Rick: It's a combination of all three

for the waters

Louis: The waters? What waters? We're in the desert.

Rick: I was misinformed.

Also, consider Rick's classic comment the night he sees Ilsa for the first time in Casablanca: "Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine." This is the type of film that is a true joy to listen to, and is more than worth taking a step back to appreciate the

Casablanca's influence is far-reaching, from the impact it's had on other movies (take The Usual Suspects or the Marx Brothers' A Night at the Opera), to its now iconic story and its many famous quotations that consistently make "top movie quotes" lists. It stands the test of time as a classic; for those who haven't seen it, I highly recommend it for its cultural significance and artistic elements. And for those who have watched it, play it again.

Casablanca was released in 1942 by Warner Bros. Pictures, and was directed by Michael Curtiz.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010 THE TECH 9

Lobby 7 Design Competition

Want advice - have questions?

Come to Lobby 10 between 12 and 2pm on Oct 13th to chat about your ideas with Prof. Mark Jarzombek.

Cookies and Crits

3 Prizes each for undergraduates and graduates:

1st prize - \$10,000 2nd prize - \$2,500 3rd prize - \$1,000

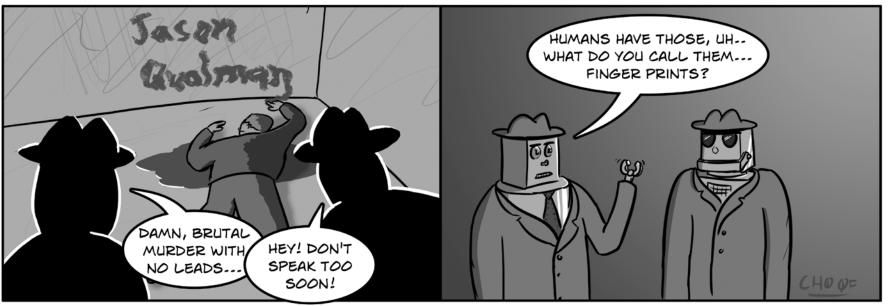


As a part of the MIT 150 celebration, this competition will seek ideas for developing design concepts for the four pedestals of the William Barton Rogers Lobby - Lobby 7. How do you think MIT should be represented?



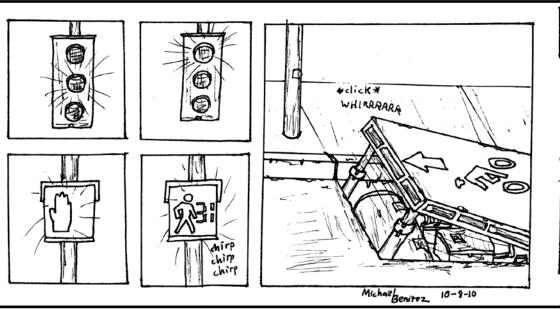
FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

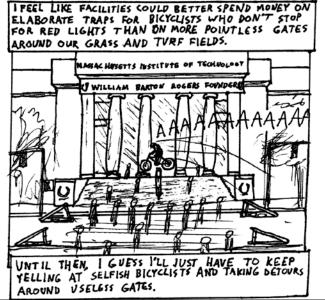
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC-COM

Help Desk by Michael Benitez





Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

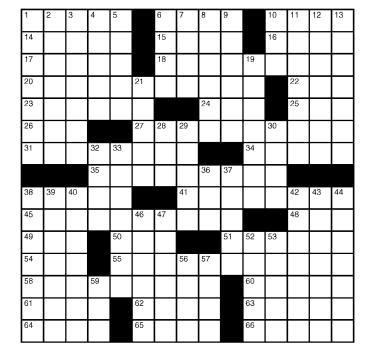
- 1 Jessica Parker or Vaughan
- 6 Address for a lady
- 10 Little rascals
- 14 Old hag
- 15 __ Spumante
- 16 Trolley
- 17 Noted violin maker
- 18 Furry-muzzled dog
- 20 Proposed candidates 22 Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"
- 23 Vin of movies
- 24 Nov. and Dec. 25 First name of a canine star
- 26 Part of ETA
- 27 Danced to victory 31 Big band leader
- 34 Gets closer
- 35 Bring back to life 38 Melodies
- 41 Be tipped off
- 45 Style of Gaudi 48 Jackie's second husband

- 49 Uris novel, with "The"
- 50 Nice one?
- 51 Interrupt rudely 54 Gasteyer of "SNL"
- 55 Carpets from Iran
- 58 Efficiency expert
- 60 Diamond measure
- 61 West and Jemison
- 62 Vaccines
- 63 Texas landmark
- 64 Latin handle 65 Nice summers?
- 66 Michael of Monty Python

DOWN

- 1 Cause of public outrage
- 2 Ornate wardrobe
- 3 Nomads
- 4 Naysayers
- 5 "Die Lorelei" poet
- 6 Ship's pole
- 7 Spore sacs 8 In residence

- 9 Bait fish
- 10 Post-ER place
- 11 Lively Polish dance
- 12 Chief
- 13 Leaves high and dry
- 19 Actor Armand
- 21 Big name in aluminum
- 28 Arista 29 Butter cutter
- 30 Symbol of Wales
- 32 Sci-fi writer David
- 33 Makes up for 36 Extinct bird
- 37 Oranjestad's island
- 38 Gandhi's title
- 39 Person of a third sex
- 40 "__ Infirmary Blues" 42 Instinctive
- 43 Paper folding
- 44 Groom or Churchill
- 46 Disquiet
- 47 Old World monkey
- 52 Flip the lid off of

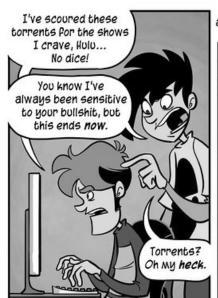


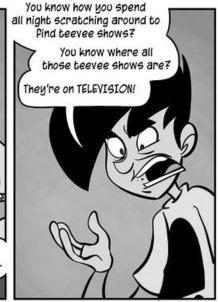
- 53 Refrain syllables
- 56 Bone dry
- 57 Levin and Gershwin 59 NASA's partner in space

Where My Shows At



by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik







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Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 13

		5			2			4
	3		9	6		7	5	2
		9						8
6			5	9				
		4				8		
				8	4			5
1						2		
3 7	4	8		7	9		6	
7			4			3		

Hard Sudoku

Solution,	page 13	3						
	8				4	6	2	
2		4			9		8	
9	7				3			
			8	3		9		
			4		5			
		1		9	7			
			3				4	5
	3		7			1		8
	4	2	9				7	

12 THE TECH FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010

Xbox add-on offers 3D

'Kinect' will feature *Minority Report* -style user interfaces, simulating 'social interaction'



OURCE: MICROSOFT RESEARCH

A screen shot of a motorcycle from Mundie's talk. Mundie used his arms to manipulate the motorcycle image, viewed in 3-D, expanding it to show its internal parts.

Microsoft, from Page 1

maker expanded so that its hundreds of internal parts are visible. Finally, after reading reads the specs, conveniently located right next to the image, he makes one more tap in midair. The purchase is complete.

The technology behind this demonstration is Xbox Kinect, a webcam-style console add-on that Microsoft will release next month. Through depth-sensing technology, Kinect builds a skeletal model of the player and allows him/her to interact with the game without the aid of a game controller, relying on more natural and intuitive commands like talking and gesturing instead.

"People who've never played video games before will be able to start operating them right away, because it's the same as operating in the natural world they already understand," Mundie said. "The goal of natural user interface is that the barrier of learning to engage and operate the system is much lower."

In his talk, Mundie explored various advances in natural user interfaces (which he pronounces "NUI," rhyming with "GUI," pronounced "gooey") and explored their implications for various fields, including the video game industry. In another demonstration of virtual gaming, Mundie steps into a lush landscape of Autumn trees and walks towards the 3-D avatars of two friends, who greet him as if they were there in person. They are playing a "Player Participation TV Series," in which 3-D avatars roam a virtual

world, changing the course of the story in real time. A TV episode setting up the evolving plotline would air once a week. Mundie has a conversation with his friends and uses his hands to move around a video clue.

"We want to emulate the experience of social interaction," Mundie said.

Other advances in natural user interaction have the potential to dramatically affect fields outside the realm of the entertainment industry. Mundie believes that in the field of health care, sterile computer control could allow doctors in operating rooms to manage their imaging systems through gestures. Virtual receptionists in rural areas could scale access to basic health care, decreasing the need for expensive labor. More intuitive computing would also decrease the barriers to computer literacy.

Reception

Students were pleased with the presentation.

Monica D. Ruiz '12, thought the presentation was "very well put-together," and said she found it "really cool to look at."

Greg D. Puszko '13, who thought the talk could have been more technical, was nevertheless pleased with the demo of Xbox Kinect. He said, "After playing with it for a minute, it felt very natural. I was surprised at how responsive it was."

Leif G. Francel '11 said, "It was like something I would have seen at Disney World, but it's amazing that the technology is so close to market."



NICHOLAS CHORNAY—THE TECH

Microsoft Chief Research Officer Craig Mundie visited MIT this Thursday to give a talk on human-computer interaction as part of the Dertouzos lecture series hosted by CSAIL. Mundie talked about the advantages and applications of computer systems that eschew the traditional mouse and keyboard interface. He also mentioned his own interests in photography and videography, calling himself "a Canon guy."

ASA advocates for groups

Commitment to ensure student groups are represented if Music takes space in Walker

Walker, from Page 1

Schmidt said.

However, in order to move forward with more detailed planning, Schmidt says "it is critical to understand who the building currently serves."

Schmidt will be working with both the MIT administration and current users of Walker, who might be directly affected by the renovation. Careful planning is taking place to assure MIT's Music and Theater program needs are met, without severely impacting the 40 student groups that are housed in Walker, he said.

Schmidt's primary aim is to find where people can move and allocate necessary space. Schmidt hopes to "move groups in a way that will create effective synergies" which may mean moving around or combining group spaces.

Before sending out an e-mail announcement to groups in Walker last Friday, Philip J. Walsh, director of Campus Activities Complex, met with the UA, GSC, ASA, and communicated with other student groups who have historical attachment to Walker: WMBR-88.1 FM, the Black Student Union, and the Rainbow Lounge community.

Walsh said his concern is ensuring the community is notified of a potential restoration. To encourage feedback and facilitate open communication, he has met with many groups individually and is looking to hold a general meeting for all Walker patrons.

According to Walsh, "although there are several groups who have a strong connection to the building historically, many are open to change and want to see if there's any value in renovation."

Association of Student Activities chair Rebecca Krentz-Wee '12 said Walsh assured her that members of UA, GSC, and ASA would all either serve on a committee or engage in direct periodic meetings with the administration to guarantee student representation.

In response to Walsh's meeting with her, Krentz-Wee says she is happy the Walker restoration was brought to her attention before started. "It's good to have that input from the beginning. It's a good sign MIT is taking this year for evaluation and bringing in student opinion, rather than suddenly springing on a change," she said.

The ASA's concern lies with "making sure the elaborate setups of student groups does not disappear." Krentz-Wee's objective is to pinpoint and communicate effectively to the administration the resources and space groups need. Some groups use Walker for storage but other groups, such as WMBR, put money and work into their space.

Krentz-Wee notes the groups who will be especially impacted by the change include the MIT Radio Society and Rainbow Lounge on the third floor, Muddy Charles on the first floor, and GSC on the second. According to Krentz-Wee, continued contact is vital. As of now, she will "continue to push for space until they take it away."

If all happens as expected, large student groups like the Black Student Union could find themselves moving out of Walker by next summer. However, it is also possible that such groups will be allowed to stay in the building and change rooms.

Schmidt emphasizes that no definitive decisions about student group movement will be made immediately. Although there is much uncertainty with regards to student group movement and restoration plans, one decision is finalized: nobody will be impacted during this coming academic year.



CAROLINA N. KAELIN—THE TE

Walker Memorial, where many exams are held, could be the new home of the Music and Theater Arts department. According to Associate Provost Martin A. Schmidt, "the Music and Theater program has had a need for new space for a number of years now."

A random sampling of people you'll meet during a typical dinner at The Tech:

Elijah, Course 1 Greg, Course 8 Josh, Course 17 Ethan, Course **9** Joy, Course **2** Jeff, Course 18 Maggie, Course **10** Jack, Course 19 Nina, Course **3** Vince, Course 12 Jenny, Course 4 Aislyn, Course **20** Jeff, Course **14** Jessica, Course **21**_M Elijah, Course **5** Maggie, Course **15** Joe, Course **6** Keith, Course 22 Steve, Course 16 Jingyun, Course 7

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010 **THE TECH 13**

Nightline will seek additional members

'Nightline is not dead,' dean says

Nightline, from Page 1

calls. They also tended to be repeat callers and lasted longer.

"It was frustrating staffers" Jeffries said, "...We are not a service that you can use repeatedly, or use in place of real psychological help."

"That is where the staffer burnout was happening," said Bainbridge-Smith.

Room 13, a similar counseling service at Harvard, has a policy of directing people to a different resource when it becomes clear that they are not Harvard-affiliated.

Jeffries said that peer institutions usually have 20-30 staffers for this kind of program. This year, Nightline only has 12 staff members, and 5 more will graduate by next fall. Nightline has no new staffers this term.

A new Nightline next year?

These are all challenges Nightline must overcome before it can return. Jeffries and Bainbridge-Smith say that the goal is for Nightline to return in limited capacity in fall

This semester, Nightline will try to decide its next step. They intend to use the spring semester to implement those decisions and to recruit staff. Whether or not they reopen next fall depends on the solutions they find and if enough staff can be recruited.

David W. Randall, an associate dean at S^3 who has advised Nightline, is confident that Nightline will

'Nightline is not dead" said Randall, "There is absolutely a commitment for there to be peer support for MIT students."

Nightline's place at MIT

Jeffries and Bainbridge-Smith will be organizing efforts in the coming months to document and celebrate Nightline's history, which began in 1978.

The Nightline staffer said that calls are usually about problems such as adjusting to MIT, roommate issues, or a relationship issue. Less common are serious calls about long term depression, rape or sui-

"But we tend to remember them more," he said.

Because people who call are frequently not in the mood to be explicitly appreciative, it is hard to gauge the true effect Nightline has had on them.

"At Nightline, you sort of have to be realistic about the things you can hope to change and the things you can help people cope with" he said.

Randall, however, says "In my four years of advising, I know of at least two lives that the service

"In terms of being a staffer, Nightline has been a great thing for me," Bainbridge-Smith said. "We try to maintain staffer sanity, so there is a lot of good support... and you can see the effect that it has had on staffers, because there is a really strong alumni bond," she added.

"You see a different side of MIT" added Jeffries, "the softer side of things."

Were you or someone you know affected by Nightline? Send your story to news@tech.mit.edu.

Duke sex joke goes public

By Katharine Q. Seelye and Liz Robbins

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DURHAM, N.C. — For nearly two weeks, many here on the Duke University campus had been aware of a certain senior "thesis" that a recent graduate wrote, intended as a joke, about her sexual exploits with 13 student-athletes.

Then the Internet seized on it. The thesis, written as a 42-page PowerPoint presentation, went viral. And students here again found their school in the middle of a sex-related scandal and annoyed at the power of the murky, borderless world of the Internet to wreak havoc and tarnish images.

"It makes me ashamed that the Duke name is attached to what she's done," Nicole Queathem, 22, a senior from St. Louis, said as she sat in the student union. "And it's the age-old double standard: People are more critical of what she did because she's

The woman in question, Karen Owen, 22, who graduated this year from Duke, evaluated what she said were her sexual liaisons with 13 student-athletes during her years at the school, and she prepared a slide presentation, complete with pictures of her subjects and graphs ranking their performance.

She forwarded this mock thesis in "horizontal academics" to a few friends, who forwarded it to their friends. After percolating within the Duke community for nearly a week, with e-mails reaching alumni overseas and message boards buzzing, the report was published online by two related websites, Jezebel and Deadspin. From there, it exploded onto the blogosphere, where as of Thursday it was still being shared via Twitter with the frenzied speed of the Indianapolis 500.

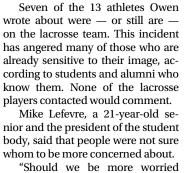
The fake thesis made its splash just as concern was raised anew about the power of the Internet to invade privacy and, sometimes, destroy lives. Last month, at Rutgers University, a student surreptitiously recorded his male roommate's encounter with another man; days later, the roommate killed himself, unleashing a national fury about cyberbullying.

"All the world's a stage in the Internet age," said Lee Rainie, the director of the Pew Internet and American Life Project. "This is just the latest of a long list of examples of how things that are often meant for small, private audiences have innumerable opportunities to become public events, because once they have left the creators' screen, they can be shared, forwarded and posted."

Owen did not respond to repeated calls to explain what happened. A man who said he was her father answered the phone in Connecticut and said his daughter did not want to

On campus, students were pashed, if not a bit fatigued by the notoriety.

Four years ago, the Duke men's lacrosse team was embroiled in scandal when a woman falsely accused three Blue Devils players of having raped her at a party where she was to perform as a stripper. One year later, the charges against the players were dropped and the prosecutor in the case, Michael B. Nifong, was dis-



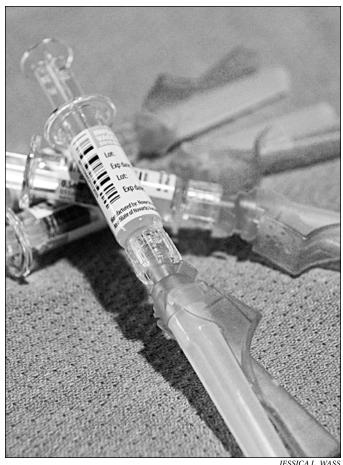
about the young woman's privacy or worry about the individuals who were named?" he said. "It's not so clear to us who was the victim and who we should reach out to."

Michael Schoenfeld, Duke's vice president for public affairs and government relations, said the education of students about their online presence was continuing, and that it was part of the orientation process for student-athletes.

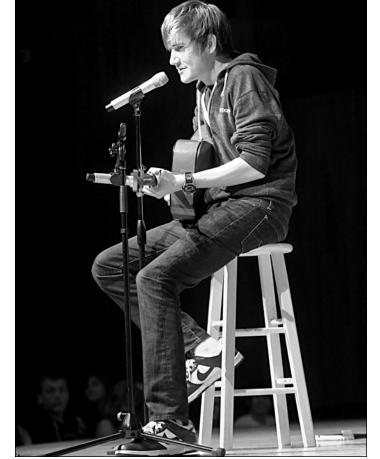
"One wonders in the Duke situation if the individuals were not athletes, would it have attracted as much attention?" Schoenfeld said.

Having grown up in the Internet age, students said they were well aware of the dangers.

"Everyone knows how the Internet works," Queathem said as she closed her laptop in the student union. "I've always been worried about what I put on Facebook. I'm very conscious of future employers looking at it. It's easy to forget, but important to remember."



MIT's third annual flu clinic, open to MIT staff, students, retirees, and family members of staff on MIT's traditional or flexible health plans, ran on Tuesday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. MIT Medical had 15,000 vaccinations on hand and were not expecting to run out. This year's flu shot has weakened strains of three types of flu: H1N1, H3N2, and influenza B. In the first four hours of Tuesday's clinic, a record 2,000 vaccinations had already been dispensed, according to Deborah Friscino, Director of Operations at MIT Medical. A second flu clinic open to MIT graduate and undergraduate students will run in W20 on Oct. 14 from 12 – 4 p.m. Another clinic for all MIT Health Plan members will run in W20 on Oct. 18 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.



SARANG KULKARNI—THE TECH Comedian Robert "Bo" Burnham performs at the MIT Fall Festival in Kresge Auditorium on Oct. 2. The event consisted of a comedy show by Bo Burnham and special guest Shane Mauss.

Solution to Hard Sudoku Solution to Fasy Sudoku

from page 11									
5	8	3	1	7	4	6	2	9	
2	1	4	5	6	9	7	8	3	
9	7	6	2	8	3	4	5	1	
4	5	7	8	3	1	9	6	2	
3	6	9	4	2	5	8	1	7	
8	2	1	6	9	7	5	3	4	
7	9	8	3	1	6	2	4	5	
6	3	5	7	4	2	1	9	8	
1	4	2	9	5	8	3	7	6	

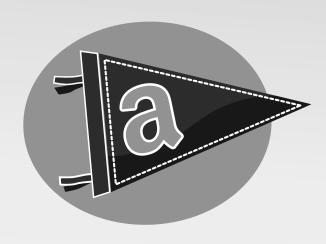
from page 11									
8	6	5	7	3	2	9	1	4	
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5	1	4	3	2	7	8	9	6	
9	2	3	6	8	4	1	7	5	
1	9	6	8	5	3	2	4	7	
3	4	8	2	7	9	5	6	1	
7	5	2	4	1	6	3	8	9	

Solution to Crossword



Jacob Sharpe '11 won Best in Show for his Chinese yo-yo act at Sigma Kappa's Late Night. The proceeds from SK Late Night went to Alzheimer's research.

14 The Tech FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010



Amazon Student

An Open Letter to MIT Dormitory Desk Workers:

On behalf of Amazon Student and Amazon Prime, I want to offer my sincerest apologies. An article in the Sept. 17 edition of *The Tech* said dormitory desk workers at MIT were overwhelmed with packages as textbooks, TVs, and video games from Amazon.com flooded the dorms. "The culprit," according to the story, is "Amazon Student, a new program that gives students FREE Two-Day Shipping on Amazon orders."

I apologize for the extra work this deluge is causing but also suspect it's just the beginning. There are so many other student essentials delivered in two days for free with Amazon Prime, from minifridges and George Foreman grills to shot glasses, 5-Hour Energy drinks, laundry detergent, and, yes, Top Ramen. And since I expect that college mailrooms across the country may be experiencing similar increases, I extend my apologies to mailroom workers wherever you are (and hope that you too are taking advantage of an Amazon Student membership).

Sincerely,

Robbie Schwietzer

Vice President, Amazon Prime

Mo Sehung

I got my Halo Reach on release day too, and it was awesome. Black Ops, anybody?

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010 **ТНЕ ТЕСН 15**

Giants may lose out

Braves v. Giants could be a toss up; Phillies can take down Reds handily

MLB, from Page 16

tember winning streak. If the Reds win, they become the nation's darlings, but it's hard to imagine them pulling this out. As the saying goes, anything can happen in a short se-

Prediction: Phillies in 4

Braves v. Giants

Both of these teams had to com-

pete all the way through the last day of the season to earn their spots in the playoffs, fending off the San Diego Padres. Both teams feature plenty of youth who weren't around when Barry Bonds led the Giants to the 2002 World Series or the Braves won the NL East on an annual basis. The series is a toss-up, but I'll go with 2004 Red Sox World Series hero Derek Lowe and the Braves.

Prediction: Braves in 4

Strong start to season

MIT Rifle wins smallbore against Wentworth; competes against four area schools on October 15, 16

Rifle, from Page 16

vironments. For example, the team members wear shoes designed to keep their feet perfectly flat, and they use canvas suits to prevent their heartbeat from affecting their shot. The range is also eerily quiet during the match, and it is considered disrespectful to talk loudly or slam the door of the range.

Despite what could be considered an atmosphere of antagonizing attention to detail, what was most impressive about the match was the amount of friendliness and sportsmanship displayed by both teams. The match was for the most part, self-arbitrated, as the rifle team members themselves scored the cards for their opponents. There were few disputes because everyone was being honest; no one was trying

fighting for points here or there. The MIT rifle team will have its next match at home on October 15 and 16 and will face four other schools: John Jay school of Criminal Justice, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.



JANUARY SCHOLARS IN FRANCE 2011

MIT's Foreign Languages and Literatures invites undergraduates to apply for the January Scholars in France program.

The program is now a creditbearing subject that will include lectures, seminars, papers and a final exam.

This year's topic is: Discovering France, Apprehending One's Self.

Conducted entirely in French, the 9-unit subject will allow up to twelve MIT students to experience two weeks of cultural immersion and analysis in Paris and Marseilles during IAP (January 3 -18, 2011).

Application deadline is October 15, 2010.

For more information and application forms, go to web.mit.edu/jsf or to FL&L's main office (14N-305).

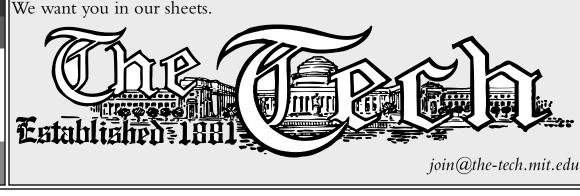


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New Roles for MIT in Online Education?

With technology rapidly transforming the world around us, what could cutting-edge education look like in the foreseeable future? Should MIT play a new role in this future? Should MIT use technology to extend its educational impact around the world? What will happen if we do nothing?



Help MIT by participating in a new faculty study group's exploration of these questions. Two ways to contribute:

MIT Online Idea Bank:

The ingenuity and innovation, thoughtfulness, and diverse perspectives of the MIT community are immeasurably valuable in this process. Submit your ideas and thoughts to online-ideas@mit.edu

<u>Independent Student Study Group:</u>

We're looking to form a thoughtful, forward-thinking group of graduate and undergraduate students to independently develop ideas, and to discuss, advise, and challenge the faculty group. If you are interested, e-mail MIT-online@mit.edu

For more information about the faculty study group, see http://web.mit.edu/provost/studygroup/

MIT splits match vs. Wentworth

Kojimoto posts highest scores in smallbore and air rifle

By Carlos Greaves

The MIT rifle team had its first match of the season this past weekend, taking on friendly area rival Wentworth Institute of Technol-

For those unfamiliar with the sport, there are actually two different rifle events at a rifle match: air rifle, which uses compressed air to propel the bullet, and smallbore, which fires a 22-caliber bullet in the same fashion as traditional firearms. The air rifle event is shot standing, while the smallbore event is shot in three positions: prone (lying down), kneeling, and offhand (standing). In the air rifle event, each individual fires 60 shots at six targets, each with ten separate bull's eyes worth ten points apiece, for a total of 600 possible points in a round. The smallbore event is scored similarly, except that 20 shots are fired in each of the three

At a rifle match, each team declares five shooters, and then the four best scores of those shooters are counted. Saturday's match was known as a "shoulder to shoulder" match, meaning the two teams only competed against each other. MIT's four high scores totaled 2161 in the air rifle competition, and

2149 in the smallbore competition, while Wentworth shot 2210 in the air rifle event and 2143 in the smallbore competition. This resulted in what is called a "split," a match result where each team wins one event.

Nigel C. Kojimoto '12 posted the highest score amongst all competitors in both events, shooting 563 in air rifle, and 550 in smallbore.

Like other sports were accuracy and concentration are demanded, many precautions were taken to ensure that the team members were not adversely affected by their en-

Rifle, Page 15

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, October 9

College

Sailing: Brass Rat/Sir Ian MacFar-

8 a.m, Charles River

Women's soccer vs. Wheaton

11 a.m, Steinbrenner Stadium

Men's tennis vs. Williams College

1 p.m., duPont Courts

Football vs. Plymouth State Uni-

2 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Sunday, October 10

Sailing: Brass Rat/Sir Ian Mac-

8 a.m, Charles River

The Tech's preseason predictions

Yankees, Braves, Reds, Phillies to take divisional matchups

By Zach Hynes SPORTS STAFF

Rare is the day when I see more students wearing hometown baseball merchandise than the ubiquitous "E/ c^2sqrt(-1)PV/nR" shirts, "EngiNERD" sweatshirts, and "God said ... [Maxwell's equations here]..., and there was light" apparel. Wednesday, the first day of the 2010 MLB playoffs, was one of those days. Picking up breakfast, I chatted with a Braves fan wearing a Brian Mc-Cann jersey and the guy behind the sandwich counter at LaVerde's about the Phillies' dominant rotation and just how well veteran ace Roy Halladay will adjust to the pressure of the postseason. (After my predictions were documented, this question was closed; Halladay no-hit the Reds on Wednesday night in his first postseason start.) Walking down the Infinite, I came across a Rays fan decked out in a navy blue jersey and a Giants fan with the classic, black-andorange, interlocking "SF" logo. Even to a fan whose team missed out on the postseason, it was heartening to see signs of baseball passion at MIT. Let's take a look at the prospects of each of the postseason contestants.

To those unacquainted with the game, the current playoff format features four teams from each league: three division champions and one "wild card" team from each league. In the first ("divisional") series, teams are matched up in a best-of-five series based on regularseason record. The second round is considered the "championship" series for each league and consists of a bestof-seven format. The World Series is the final round; the champions of each league play each other in a best-of-seven format.

The battle-tested Rays will defeat a Texas team that feasted on the Mariners and Angels, who couldn't finish the season over .500.

The divisional match-ups run started on Wednesday and will run through next week. Here are the Tech's predictions and comments on the upcoming

Texas Rangers v. Tampa Bay Rays

David Price, among other Rays, was dismayed with Rays fans for failing to buy tickets and support the team during the September stretch run. Luckily for Price and the Rays, their opponents play in a still more difficult baseball market: football-crazy Texas in the middle of October. If anyone attends or watches the games, they'll see two potent offenses

at work against plenty of young, power pitching. In either case, the battle-tested Rays will defeat a Texas team that feasted on the Mariners, Angels, and Athletics during the regular season, none of whom finished the season over .500.

Prediction: Rays in 5

Minnesota Twins v. New York **Yankees**

This is Andy Pettite's series to lose. C.C. Sabathia will get two starts and will find a way to beat Francisco Liriano or whoever else the Twins line up to oppose him. If Andy Pettite can throw seven-plus innings of two-run, threerun ball, the veteran Yankees will take the series. Just as the Celtics stumbled in the regular season before an inspired postseason run, the Yankees will now leave behind their September mediocrity and move on to the AL Championship Series.

Prediction: Yankees in 5

Reds v. Phillies

The Phillies are loaded with stars who have tasted success in 2008 and are ravenous for more; Halladay, Oswalt, and Hamels comprise an unbeatable starting rotation. The Phillies edged the Reds in the season series, 5-2, during the middle of the summer; this was before the Phillies stormed back to take the NL East on the strength of an 11-game Sep-

MLB, Page 15

Field hockey in high spirits after win over Smith

Klauber sets pace with first goal less than one minute in

By Carlos Greaves

This past Saturday, the MIT field hockey team routed Smith College 6-1, earning its tenth win of the season and securing its third win in a row in conference play. The team, now 10-1, has just five games left in the regular season, including three at home.

The team did not give Smith a single minute of breathing room — literally — as Kameron L. Klauber '12 stole the ball at midfield and scored 57 seconds into the game. MIT never looked back, and were up by four just 15 minutes into the game. The offensive onslaught slowed towards the end of the first half, and with ten minutes left in the first half, it looked as though Smith would begin to gain control of the game. However, despite Smith's multiple penalty corners and breakaway opportunities, the MIT defense held firm, conceding only one goal in the final minute of the half.

At the start of the second half, MIT was back in control, keeping the ball almost entirely on Smith's side of the field. They would score 2 more goals, sealing the victory.

The only thing more impressive than the success of the team is this year was the excitement level of the game. Even though MIT clearly dominated the entire game, the few fans there were on the edge of their seats, cheering on their friends, as the offense scored goal after exciting goal. Any sports fan who

> enjoys displays of athleticism and skill would have been able to appreciate the game.

> For those who have not seen a game of field hockey, the game play is similar to soccer and, as the name implies, ice hockey. Like soccer, there are out-of-bounds on the touch lines and goal lines, as well as offsides, corners, and even yellow and red cards (although field hockey umpires also issue green cards). Offensive strategy in field hockey is also similar to that of soccer, with players sending each other on runs and trying to create one-on-ones with the goalkeeper. The clock also does not stop, allowing two halves of continuous action.

> Like ice hockey, the players use their sticks to either maneuver the ball past defenders, whack the ball down field, or reach out and steal the balls from opposing players.

> The only disappointment on Saturday was the scarcity of MIT fans there to enjoy the victory. Given their stellar 10-1 record, the field hockey team deserves more recognition. We may not all be sports fans, but we can all appreciate the hard work that the team must have put in to achieve this level of excellence.

That being said, there are three more home games left in the season, the next on October 14 against Daniel Webster College.

LEGAL COUNSEL

MIT students, family, employers and start-ups seeking U.S. legal counsel, campus or office consultation. Call:

James Dennis Leary, Esq. 321-544-0012

MIT-ISRAEL INFORMATION SESSION



Thursday, October 14, 5-7pm 1 Amherst Street, E40-4th floor

Discover opportunities for internships and research in Israel — ALL EXPENSES PAID! Learn about the application process, hear from **Prof.** Christine Ortiz, MIT-Israel Faculty Director and **Dean for Graduate Education**, and speak with returning interns

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